

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY AT

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

APRIL 2, 2001

IN RE:)	
)	
APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENTS TO)	DOCKET NO. 01-00074
THE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT)	
NEGOTIATED BY BELL SOUTH)	
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND)	
BIRCH TELECOM OF THE SOUTH, INC.)	
PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 251 AND 252)	
OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT)	
OF 1996)	

ORDER APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

This matter came before the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority") upon the Petition for approval of the Amendments to the Interconnection Agreement (the "Amendments") negotiated by and between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") and Birch Telecom of the South, Inc. ("Birch"). The Petition for approval of the Amendments came before the Authority pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 251-252.


The Amendments were considered at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on March 20, 2001, in Nashville, Tennessee before Chairman Sara Kyle, Director H. Lynn Greer, Jr., and Director Melvin J. Malone. The Authority has jurisdiction over public utilities pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-104 *et seq.* Based upon the Petition, the record in this matter, and the standards for review set forth in 47 U.S.C. §§ 251-252, the Directors unanimously approved the Amendments and made the following findings and conclusions:

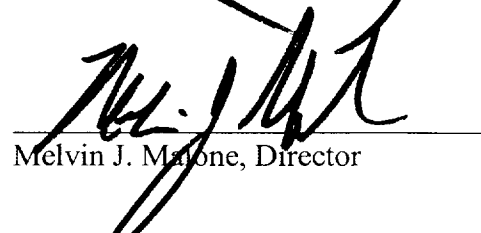
- 1) The Amendments are in the public interest as it provides consumers with alternative sources of telecommunications services within the BellSouth service area;
- 2) The Amendments are not discriminatory to telecommunications service providers that are not parties thereto;
- 3) No party has sought intervention in this docket;
- 4) Approval of the Amendments is consistent with previous Authority decisions and orders; and
- 5) The Amendments and the Interconnection Agreement are reviewable by the Authority pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 251-252 and Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-104 *et seq.*

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

The Amendments to the Interconnection Agreement negotiated by and between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and Birch Telecom of the South, Inc. are approved and are subject to the review of the Authority as provided herein.


Sara Kyle, Chairman


H. Lynn Greer, Jr., Director


Melvin J. Malone, Director

ATTEST:


K. David Waddell, Executive Secretary